

TAXI OPERATORS SHOULD BE PUT UNDER BONDS

In Case of Accident Injured
Persons Would Be Recom-
pensed.

CASE OF MISS WATSON.

Proper Inspection Would Have
Prevented Wreck That
Crippled Her.

BY SOPHIE IRENE LOEB.

That the forthcoming ordinance to be recommended by the investigating Taxi-cab Committee should contain a provision for the bonding of each and every taxicab owner, is evident in the present case of Miss Edith V. Watson against the Mason, Seamon Transportation Company.

Miss Watson, strapped in a chair, was wheeled into court to testify in her behalf, claiming \$5,000 damages against the company for injuries received while riding in one of their taxicabs. She was represented by W. O. Hadger whose contention was that the cab company was negligent.

Miss Watson, who lives with her mother at No. 528 West One Hundred and Sixty-first street, gave dancing lessons, and the injury to her left knee makes it impossible for her to continue her means of livelihood.

As a curious part of the case, the doctor who attended the young woman brought what was left of Miss Watson's knee in a bottle and testified to the future helplessness of his patient in the use of her leg. The company concerned, in answer, denied all liability.

The plaintiff contended that the cab was an old one and not in good condition, which caused the accident. The company answered that it inspected the cabs regularly and was not to blame for the breakage, although the cab is five years old. The lawyers for the company were Corbett & Stern.

Apropos of this case, at the recent public hearing Mr. Stern representing the Mason, Seamon Company, claimed the right for being given special privileges on the streets of New York in the way of private hack stands, since cab companies were responsible for accidents, while public hackmen were "irresponsible."

WHY SHOULD THERE BE A DIFFERENCE?

In behalf of The Evening World for the public, I asked at the public hearing, wherein a cab company was and should be more responsible than any other owner of a cab driving through the streets of New York and obtaining the same license for public service as is granted cab companies.

A witness (Mr. Widd) had brought out the fact that cab companies whom he favored carried insurance for accident and were more responsible. To quote The Evening World's contention as to this point in the hearing and referring to that witness:

Miss Loeb—e asked these Independents, if they did not have accident insurance, how would the public be protected? That these companies are responsible people in that regard and will protect the public.

Chairman Willard—The companies, as I understand, do not carry insurance.

Miss Loeb—They are held more responsible, according to this man's ideas.

Chairman Willard—Twenty-eight of them have failed or have judgments against them that I could not collect.

Miss Loeb—They are responsible for accidents.

Chairman Willard—Not unless they have the money to pay.

Miss Loeb—That was the point; if an accident occurred, you would be better protected (which was also stated).

Chairman Willard—The companies are

anxious to create that impression, and of course that is true in a great many cases, but they are not insured.

Miss Loeb—Then every public hackman should be under the same restrictions for the benefit of the public.

Chairman Willard—They are not restrictions. They are under the same liability. The Independent hackmen may not be capitalized at \$5,000,000, that is the only distinction.

Miss Loeb—If I were in a yellow taxi-cab and there was an accident, to what extent would I be protected in those cases any more than in the Independent?

Chairman Willard—Not a bit.

Mr. Hadger (for the Yellow Taxicab Company)—Yes.

Chairman Willard—I will answer that question. You can sue the company or sue the individual in the suit against the individual, your judgment might not be good. In the case of the Connecticut Taxicab Company, at present I presume it would, but that holds good in any kind of business.

Miss Loeb—Suppose I were injured in an Independent or public taxicab, to what extent could I be protected?

Chairman Willard—You could sue them.

NO REDRESS WHERE THERE IS NO MONEY.

Miss Loeb—Mr. Widd brought out the fact that when they didn't have any money I could not get the redress.

Chairman Willard—We have had that before. There are lawyers who might be guilty of negligence for which they would be liable to a suit. Some of them would be good for a judgment, and others would not. You would not want to bond all lawyers, would you?

Miss Loeb—I say all public hackmen and Independents should be bonded alike. I don't think it is fair to feel when a man goes down to the License Bureau and gets a license as a public hackman that any one should be more responsible than another. Under present regulations it would be so.

Mr. Warren (for the Independents)—I want to inform her that it has been offered that we would put on a reasonable bond, provided the companies did.

Chairman Willard—I remember that offer was made.

Miss Loeb—If that offer is made and carried through, it takes away the idea of responsibility as to one company or one individual more than another, and the proposition of these Independents would be under the same restrictions.

Also during the hearings the companies endeavored to show that a cab was practically worthless at the end of two years. The trial brought out in Miss Watson's case that the cab in question was five years old.

Taxicab cases are of frequent occurrence in the courts, and the regulations for protection of the citizen are questionable to say the least, especially since Miss Watson with all that remained of her knee in a bottle, being a bread-winner, could not wait to wait the case in the event of an appeal to the company, finally settling it with the defendants for \$12,000.

Certainly here is a condition which the present Aldermanic Committee can adjust in the forthcoming ordinance. If there were fifty inspectors on the streets of New York, as has been recommended by The Evening World (similar to that in London), such accidents could not be so frequent, as in this case the loosened rod that caused the accident might have been detected by an official inspector and the accident avoided.

Every owner plying for hire in public conveyance service should be put under bond that the citizen may get equitable adjustments in cases of this kind.

REVOLUTIONARY WAR FLAGS.

Given by Edward Tuck to New Hampshire Historical Society.

CONCORD, Jan. 10.—Edward Tuck of Paris, who has been heretofore a benefactor of the New Hampshire Historical Society, to-day added to his gifts to the society securities valued at \$65,000 and the only two remaining battle flags of a New Hampshire regiment carried in the Revolutionary War.

The flags were captured by Burgoyne's army at Fort Anne, N. Y., July 2, 1777. They had been held in England until their purchase recently by Mr. Tuck.

STATEN ISLAND NOTES.

Miss Margaret Braun of Boston, who has been a guest of Miss Clara Macaulay, Westervelt avenue, New Brighton, has returned to her home.

Miss Edith Clift of Tottenville is visiting friends in Flushing.

Richmond Council No. 35, Knights of Columbus, will have a ball in the German Club rooms, Stapleton, on Jan. 25. Those on the committee of arrangements are Louis H. Yater, James Lacey, Joan J. Sullivan, Charles B. Dulles, William Vandervoort and Edward Kane.

Lawyer Richard A. Irving of Main street, Tottenville, will spend the winter in Virginia.

The United Church Society of St. John Baptist de la Salle, Rev. Father Neufeld, pastor, Jackson street, Stapleton, will have a reception and entertainment in the German Club rooms, on Jan. 29.

Superintendent of Buildings for the Borough of Richmond, John Seaton, called on Wednesday afternoon for Panama. He will be gone three weeks.

John Franklin of Port Richmond is visiting friends in Paterson. He will be gone a week.

Mrs. Edwin Markham of Westervelt

will deliver a lecture upon "Old Missions in California" in the chapel of Immanuel Church, Jewett avenue, West New Brighton, next Tuesday evening. It will be under the auspices of the Ladies' Aid Society.

Mrs. Ernest Edgar of Annandale has returned home from a visit with friends in Manhattan.

Mrs. William B. Spence of Tottenville has returned home from a visit with friends in Greenwich, Conn.

St. Mary's School Association of Rosebank will have a cake and apron bazaar in the new parish house, New York avenue, on the evenings of Jan. 12 and 14.

Miss Mary Barry of Tompkins avenue, Tompkinsville, is visiting friends in Dun- kirk, N. Y.

The Mother's Club of Public School No. 32, Westervelt, will meet in the school next Wednesday afternoon. Mrs. Edith Whitmore of Tompkinsville, will speak on "The Pure Food Law."

Mr. and Mrs. Paul V. Masters of Sum- merfield avenue, Mariners Harbor, have returned home from a visit to their son, Mr. John A. Masters, pastor of St. Peter's Methodist Episcopal Church, Reading, Pa.

Miss Mary Ryan of Fort Wadsworth is

visiting relatives in Montreal. She will be gone ten days.

Miss Janet Madison of Richmond terrace, Port Richmond, is visiting friends in South Orange.

Miss Anna M. Quade of Castleton avenue, West New Brighton, has returned home from a pleasant trip to Washington, where she was the guest of her sister, Mrs. John P. Ryan.

Mr. and Mrs. George Leven of Tottenville are visiting friends in Pough- keepse.

Miss Anna O'Donnell of Manor road, N. J., she will be gone two weeks.

Mrs. John A. Seabury of Westervelt avenue, New Brighton, is the guest of her parents in Toronto.

Disappeared on Visit Here.

The police of this city were asked yesterday to send out a general alarm for Leo Tabor, a Buffalo merchant, who is missing.

B. Tabor of No. 31 Union square, a brother of the missing man, said that Mr. Tabor, after visiting Albany, started for New York Christmas night on business and since had not communicated with his family or friends.

Left a Will to His Wife.

The will of Frederick N. Goddard of Roslyn, L. I., disposing of an estate said to be worth \$100,000 was filed for probate yesterday at Minola. The en-

tire estate is left to the widow, Anna Godwin Goddard. Mr. Goddard was a nephew of William Cullen Bryant, the poet. He lived in the latter's home- stead in Roslyn. He died on Dec. 31, 1912.

Save the Babies.

INFANT MORTALITY is something frightful. We can hardly realize that of all the children born in civilized countries, twenty-two per cent., or nearly one-quarter, die before they reach one year; thirty-seven per cent., or more than one-third, before they are five, and one-half before they are fifteen!

We do not hesitate to say that a timely use of Castoria would save a majority of these precious lives. Neither do we hesitate to say that many of these infantile deaths are occasioned by the use of narcotic preparations. Drops, tinctures and soothing syrups sold for children's complaints contain more or less opium or morphine. They are, in considerable quantities, deadly poisons. In any quantity, they stupify, retard circulation and lead to congestions, sickness, death. Castoria operates exactly the reverse, but you must see that it bears the signature of Chas. H. Fletcher. Castoria

opens the pores of the skin and allays fever. Genuine Castoria always bears the signature of Chas. H. Fletcher.

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34th Street—New York

Announce a Special Sale of

Women's High-Grade Footwear

At Exceptionally Low Prices

Black and tan calfskin lace boots with low or Cuban heels. Also a limited quantity of smart patent leather boots with fashionable cloth tops. Value \$5 2.95

Women's and misses' high-grade satin slippers in nine distinct shades; each pair prettily trimmed with a dainty chiffon and ribbon rosette. Value \$4.50 3.50

Fur Coats and Sets—At Clearance Prices

All high-class fur coats, sets and separate muffs and scarfs, comprising the season's most fashionable furs and styles, now offered at extraordinary reductions.

French Seal Coats, three-quarter length models, plain or trimmed, with collar and cuffs of civet cat, chinchilla or raccoon. Value \$125 75.00

French Seal Coats, comprising exclusive copies of imported models with black fox collar. Value \$150 95.00

Hudson Seal Coats in long or three-quarter length models of superior style and quality. Value \$200 135.00

OPPENHEIM, COLLINS & C

34th Street—New York

Announce an Important Sale of

Boys' Suits and Overcoats

At Greatly Reduced Prices

Boys' Overcoats in splendid models, made of fancy mixtures in all sizes from 2½ to 17, and of chinchilla in all sizes from 2½ to 10 years. Regularly to \$10 5.95

Boys' Overcoats in smart models, three quarter or full length, made of fancy mixtures, sizes 2½ to 18, and of chinchilla, 2½ to 10. Regularly to \$15 8.50

Boys' Suits, Norfolk and double-breasted models, made of fine fancy mixtures and blue serge, with extra pair of trousers; sizes 8 to 17. Regularly to \$10 5.50

Boys' Hand-Tailored Suits in exclusive models, made of superior fabrics; single or double trousers; all sizes from 8 to 18 years. Regularly to \$15 8.50

A Splendid Assortment of Boys' Hats and Furnishings

At Greatly Reduced Prices.



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To-day and To-morrow Brill Brothers

Big Semi-Annual Clearance Thousands of Overcoats and Suits At Record-Price Reductions

An Enormous Clearance Sale Which Breaks All Records for Bargain-giving in the Brill Stores

The sole object of this Sale is a complete, effective and rapid clearance of the stocks of our Five Big Stores—Everything must go—Former prices are ignored—This sale has been famous for years as New York's Biggest Bargain Event.

Overcoats and Suits in Hundreds of Styles, Kinds, Fabrics, Models and Colors

\$18, \$15 and \$12 \$9.50 \$35, \$32 and \$30 \$16.50
Overcoats & Suits Overcoats & Suits

One of the most remarkable assortments of Overcoats ever displayed at this low price. Among them are single and double breasted, plain and belted back models, ulsters and Chesterfields—coats with self-collars, shawl collars, convertible collars and storm collars; all in a wondrous variety of fabrics and colors, blues, brown, heather mixtures, Oxfords and Cambridges; cheviots, velours, Shetlands, friezes and cassimeres.

In Suits there's a splendid variety of browns, grays and blues in a multitude of smart styles and mixtures—all are this season's models and fabrics, and instead of \$12, \$15 or \$18 are now \$9.50.

\$25, \$22 and \$20 \$13.50
Overcoats & Suits

Chinchilla Overcoats in blue, brown and gray are foremost among the several hundred smart overcoats offered in this great sale at \$13.50. Among the rest are brown mixtures, gray mixtures, blue mixtures, plain browns, plain blues and plain grays, meltons, vicunas, velours, Shetlands, friezes and cheviots, in smart Guards models, ulsters and Chesterfields with belted and plain backs; single and double breasted, many with the extremely popular shawl collar—all at \$13.50.

Suits include a range of styles, fabrics and colors such as to satisfy the most exacting taste and please the most critical fancy.

If You Are Going South---At Our 49th Street Store

A splendid assortment of Summer Suits at Half Off Former Prices, including Tropical Serges, Flannels, Shantung and Rajah Silks, Worsteds and Homespuns; also Lightweight Overcoats for Spring and Fall at Half Off Former Prices

Sale To-day and To-morrow at all Five Stores

Brill Brothers

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UNION SQUARE, 14TH ST., Near Broadway

125TH STREET, CORNER THIRD AVENUE—OPEN EVENINGS

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125TH STREET, CORNER THIRD AVENUE—OPEN EVENINGS